

كشافة مصر

INTERNATIONAL

Herald Tribune

Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post

Austria	..... 2.5	Libya	..... 9.0
Belgium	..... 1.5	Luxembourg	..... 1.0
Denmark	..... 1.2	Netherlands	..... 0.85
France	..... 1.0	Norway	..... 1.25
Germany	..... 0.75	Portugal	..... 0.5
Greece	..... 0.5	Spain	..... 1.5
Ireland	..... 1.0	Sweden	..... 1.0
Italy	..... 1.0	Switzerland	..... 1.0
Japan	..... 1.0	Turkey	..... 2.0
Lebanon	..... 2.5	U.S. Military	..... 30.0
		Yugoslavia	..... 1.0

TODAY'S WEATHER—PARIS: Cloudy, with
drizzle. Temp. 37-41. Tomorrow:
change. Yesterday's temp. 41-34 (5-1).
WIND: Cloudy, with some snow. Temp. 41-38
(5-1). CHANCE: Moderate. BORE:
41-34 (5-1). NEW YORK: Partly
cloudy. Temp. 34-36 (12-2). Yesterday's temp.
35-25 (2-4). "Yesterday's" temp.
35-11.

ADDITIONAL WEATHER—PAGE 1

27,098

PARIS, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28-SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 1970

Established 1887

Arabs Detained, More Hunted in Plane Explosions

BONN, Feb. 27 (Reuters).—Police said today an Arab detained in Frankfurt helped post a package believed to have contained the bomb that exploded on an Austrian airliner last week.

Haigon Deputy Gets Retrial On Red Links

SAIGON, Feb. 27 (UPI).—The government granted a new trial today to National Assembly Deputy Trang Ngoc Chau, sentenced two days ago to 20 years at hard labor for giving ties with the Communists.

A South Vietnamese spokesman said Mr. Chau, 46, had been granted his appeal for a retrial and would be brought to the suburban Chi Hoa Prison Monday to face again the military court that convicted him. Mr. Chau had been in the office in the National Assembly building for three days before a 150-man force of police stormed in yesterday, seized him and his wife and hauled him off to jail.

Bomb Rocks U.S. Barracks In Mid-Saigon

SAIGON, Feb. 27 (UPI).—A 20-pound bomb exploded outside a U.S. military barracks in the city of Saigon today, wounding at least five persons including two American civilians.

It was the first major guerrilla attack in Saigon since Feb. 8 when a 25-pound explosive was tossed on the roof of the General Press Center. Military police said that today's attack occurred in a service station adjacent to the Metropolitan hotel where men's quarters on Tran Quang Street, a major Saigon thoroughfare. Three U.S. military vehicles parked near the station were damaged and the station was littered with broken glass and debris. Initial reports said the barracks were not damaged.

The injured persons were on the street outside. Military police said the victims were two Vietnamese civilians, a Vietnamese soldier and two American servicemen.

36 Targets Shelled
Meanwhile, military spokesmen said that guerrilla gunmen shelled 36 targets during the night, including the costliest American casualties since December. Six guerrillas were killed and 29 wounded.

The increase in the rate of shelling coincided with the largest number of U.S. raids in three months.

Seven U.S. Marine units comprising 1,133 men left for home today as part of President Nixon's announced withdrawal of 50,000 troops by April 15.

The 25th dropped more than 100 tons of bombs in ten raids on what were described as guerrilla troop concentrations, bunkers and base camps.

No one was injured in the mid-air blast which tore a hole in the freight hold of the Austrian Caravelle airliner shortly after it took off on a flight to Vienna carrying mail for Israel. The plane made a safe emergency landing at Frankfurt.

Police said Mr. Qasem rented a hotel room in Frankfurt where they found bits of welding material, a 15-volt battery and other equipment believed to have been used to prepare the bomb.

At the same time, police in West Germany and nine other countries were on alert for another Jordanian wanted in connection with last week's Swissair airliner disaster.

The police said the man, Sofian Raddi Quaddumi, was either in West Germany or had recently left the country by car in an attempt to reach his home in Amman. Authorities in Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Switzerland, Austria, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Turkey have been asked to look for him.

Bonn police said all four Arabs had driven to the Feldberg, the tallest peak in the Taunus mountains, near Frankfurt to test an altimeter, similar to the type which was believed to have set off the explosion.

● Palestinian commando organizations begin to apply their own discipline to their forces in Lebanon and Jordan. Story on Page 2.

● A 13-year-old Arab boy was killed and 39 other persons, 36 of them Arabs, were injured in grenade attacks in the Gaza Strip today. Story on Page 2.

explosions aboard the two airliners. Meanwhile, Zurich police said they wanted to interview Mr. Jawher and Mr. Quaddumi, both about 30 and speaking broken English, in connection with the Swissair Coronado airliner crash, in which all 47 aboard died.

Police in Zurich appealed to hoteliers, restaurant-owners, boarding house keepers and all members of the public to contact airport police if they had any information about the two men and their possible presence in Switzerland.

The police also asked to hear from any Swiss shopkeeper who may have sold an altimeter to customers of Arab appearance.

West German authorities advised the Swiss federal attorney yesterday that the two suspects, Mr. Jawher and Mr. Quaddumi, are believed to have crossed from Germany into Switzerland in a cream-colored automobile, either a Ford 17M or a Mercedes, with German license plates.

(Zurich police said this morning, "The men are still at large.")

Arabs Refused Abroad
ROME, Feb. 27 (UPI).—The pilot of a Beirut-bound Air France plane today refused to carry two (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)



Students of the University of California at Santa Barbara watching the Bank of America building burn.

National Guard in Santa Barbara After 3d Night of Riots

SANTA BARBARA, Feb. 27 (AP).—About 300 National Guardsmen patrolled streets near the University of California at Santa Barbara today after a third night of violence that culminated in a charge by 300 yelling policemen hurling tear gas containers.

One demonstrator was shot by

a campus policeman and another struck by a police squad car, a sheriff's spokesman said. Four policemen and a third demonstrator were injured. A police spokesman said there were "25 to 50 arrests."

The demonstrator turned last night, in defiance of a curfew, was only half as large as the

previous night, when a \$250,000 Bank of America branch building was destroyed by fire. The National Guard was activated last night on orders of Gov. Ronald Reagan after a request by Santa Barbara Sheriff James Webster.

Gov. Reagan also declared a state of extreme emergency in

Santa Barbara and ordered the state attorney general to investigate the leadership of the through that had rampaged through the community. After meeting here with Santa Barbara County supervisors, university officials, the sheriff and a National Guard official, (Continued on Page 3, Col. 1.)

Czech Airline To Fly Into N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP).—Czechoslovak Airlines (CSA) will inaugurate service to the United States May 4, an official of the airline said today.

Otto Vodicka, CSA regional manager, said the service between Prague and New York will be provided by Russian-built Ily-62 four-engine jets accommodating 133 passengers in economy class and 16 in first class.

Mr. Vodicka said this would be the first direct service by a European airline other than Soviet between the United States and Eastern Europe.

Nixon Seeks New Measures To Avert Transport Strikes

By Carroll Kilpatrick

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (WP).—President Nixon submitted to Congress today a long-awaited and elaborate new plan to deal with national emergency labor disputes in the transportation industry.

It would give the President new power to bring about a settlement beyond the power he now has in the Railway Labor Act and the Taft-Hartley Act.

Other presidents have promised to submit plans to deal with emergency labor disputes but have been unable to work out a proposal they were willing to submit to Congress.

Mr. Nixon's plan, which would deal with disputes in the railroad, airline, maritime, and trucking industries, is expected to face tough

Issues Challenge to Youth Pompidou Ignores Pickets at Stanford U.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 27 (AP).—French President Georges Pompidou, on a crowded tour of the San Francisco Bay area, paid a brief visit today to the Stanford University campus where 100 yards orderly pro-Israel pickets protested France's sale of Mirage jet fighters to Libya.

The presidential party made the 35-mile trip from the Presidio of San Francisco aboard three U.S. Marine helicopters.

The pickets, gathered some 300 feet away from the roped-off Stanford landing spot, waved signs in French and English bearing such slogans as "Peace Is No Mirage," and "Jewish Blood for Oil."

On his arrival last night he was met by orderly picketing outside his hotel.

Earlier, he had been presented with the key to the city by Mayor Joseph Alioto in an airport welcome, as he came in from Cape Kennedy, where he made a simulated landing on the moon in a lunar landing practice vehicle.

Arriving at Stanford this morning, Mr. Pompidou was smiling as he stepped out of a green Marine helicopter. He was accompanied by a party of about 30.

As his helicopter landed outside the scientific facility, the peaceful protesters gathered 100 yards away chanted: "Sell Israel jets" and waved signs, including some reading: "Pompidou—All Pomp and No Do" and "Release Israeli Planes."

The French president ignored the crowd, which included women and children, as he was met by university officials.

Mr. Pompidou was greeted by W. P. Fuller, 34, chairman of the Stanford University trustees; W. K. E. Panchuk, director of the accelerator center, University Provost Richard Lyman, and U.S. Atomic Energy Commissioner Thomas Thompson.

He was whisked by limousine to the target area where perches of matter are bombarded to discover their physical makeup in a towering seven-story building crammed with machinery.

France is involved in construction of a similar atomic reactor. Mr. Pompidou was presented with a petition asking France to

lift the arms embargo on Israel during the closed meeting. The petition, signed by 400 students and members of the local Jewish community, was handed to Mr. Pompidou by a Stanford student leader. The French president took it without comment.

He returned to his helicopter for the flight back to San Francisco after an hour and one-half at the atomic research facility. The 350 demonstrators sang: "Shalom, Shalom," as Mr. Pompidou flew off.

Later Mr. Pompidou addressed a luncheon meeting of the Commonwealth Club, where he challenged modern youth to help overcome the current "crises of civilization" and declared that the answer could not be found in revolution.

As National Guardsmen moved in to control youthful rioters elsewhere in California, Mr. Pompidou acknowledged that young people around the world, especially students, were bewildered and torn between a thirst for enjoyment and despair.

But he said that their criticism of society often remained negative. "With many, it leads only to nothingness, to destructive or self-destructive gestures."

"Whoever seeks the answer to the question that modern man is asking himself will not find it in a social, economic or political revolution," he said.

After the luncheon, Mr. Pompidou met with local Jewish leaders to explain France's Middle East policies.

Three Options Are Listed
Mr. Shultz emphasized that "the purpose is to protect the public interest."

The President said that the Taft-Hartley Act, as it applies to the transportation industry, should be amended to give him three options, if at the end of an 80-day cooling-off period no settlement has been reached.

The first option would allow the President to extend the cooling-off period 30 days. If a settlement appeared to be near, this might be "the most attractive" choice, the President said.

The second option would be for the President to require partial operation of a troubled industry to minimize the danger to the national health and safety. This procedure could be carried out for up to six months.

The third option, which is expected to receive the most attention, would be to require the most

Big Three Agree To Russian Bid For Berlin Talks

By Bernard Gwertzman

MOSCOW, Feb. 27 (NYT).—The United States, Britain and France notified the Soviet Union today that they are ready to begin Big Four talks on problems relating to Berlin. Diplomatic sources said they expected the talks to begin by the end of March in West Berlin.

In virtually identical aide-memoires delivered by the allied ambassadors here, the Western powers said they agreed with the Russians that the discussions should be held at the ambassadorial level in the building formerly used by the Allied Control Council in Berlin when the Big Four administered the city.

The exact date remains to be worked out, diplomats said, but there seems no doubt that the talks will begin in the next three to four weeks.

The allies first proposed on Dec. 16 that the Big Four talks be held on problems such as improved access to the divided city and better communications and travel within the two halves of Berlin.

The Soviet Union, in a reply Feb. 10, indicated according to informed sources, that they were willing to talk with the Western powers but only about improving the status of West Berlin. In its aide-memoire Moscow proposed West Berlin as the site and that the level of representation be at ambassadorial level.

Soviet Position
For years, the Soviet position has been that East Berlin is the capital of East Germany and not subject to negotiation, but that West Berlin, 110 miles inside East Germany, is a special entity that can be discussed by the big powers.

The allies, in consultation with West Germany, have denied the Soviet interpretation, but decided that the differing views do not rule out talks. The allies presumably will try to raise the question of access to East Berlin in the talks, although all signs are that Moscow will refuse to discuss it.

The apparent agreement to hold Big Four talks will further intensify the diplomatic activity surrounding Germany.

Currently the Soviet Union is engaged in bilateral talks with West Germany on matters relating to a "reunification-of-force" agreement.

But German sources say the discussions between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko and Egon Bahr, Chancellor Willy Brandt's special envoy, have gone well beyond a narrow declaration.

These talks are due to resume soon after Mr. Bahr returns from Bonn on Sunday.

West Germany has also begun talks with Poland on normalizing relations. West Germany and (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Swiss Court Backs U.S. Plea For Data on Secret Account

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Feb. 27 (AP).—In a precedent-setting ruling, Switzerland's Federal Supreme Court has upheld the U.S. Justice Department's right to access to secret Swiss bank files that figured in a multi-million-dollar fraud against the U.S. government.

The ruling, just made public, rejects a suit by a Zurich bank and one of its executives, who were named in a U.S. federal indictment as a co-conspirator in the swindle involving overcharges on U.S. Navy defense contracts.

According to evidence presented at a U.S. District Court in Washington, the two Americans, an attorney Francis N. Rosenbaum and St. Louis businessman Andrew L. Stone, have pleaded guilty to fraud and were sentenced to prison on Feb. 10.

The Swiss bankers, who were not charged in the U.S. case, were alleged to have supplied Stone and Rosenbaum with fictitious bills from European dummy firms that were used in overcharging the Navy on aircraft rocket launchers.

One of them, Hans Senn, and his bank, the Bank Fier Handel und Effekten, last year sued the Justice Department and Zurich prosecution authorities who had made the secret bank files in the case available to the U.S. government.

The suit went to the Supreme Court after the Zurich cantonal prosecutor had rejected an earlier appeal by Rosenbaum, Mr. Senn and the Zurich bank demanding that the United States be denied access to the files.

The prosecutor insisted that the United States had the "status of an injured party" and thus was entitled to examine the files after formally pledging that the information would "not be used for fiscal (tax) purposes."

This clause was in accordance with Swiss law that stipulates that bank secrecy cannot be lifted in tax investigations.

Swiss officials have pointed out that investigations involving money allegedly hidden away in Swiss bank accounts by American gangsters from tax evasion should be below for data. Cases, officials said, on secret

GATT, Treaty of Rome Cited EEC Rejects Criticism of Trade Accords

BRUSSELS, Feb. 27 (NYT).—The president of the European Economic Commission, Jean Rey, rejected accusations today that the Common Market was eroding international trade agreements by concluding preferential treaties with certain countries or areas.

Mr. Rey told a news conference the headquarters of the Commission that the accusations were "rather astonishing" since the volume of trade between these agreements did not reach 10 percent of the common market's total trade.

He said that the Common Market had concluded in Europe, Greece and Turkey, he said, in accordance with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which provides that no preferential trade agreements may be concluded unless they are aimed at establishing a free zone or a customs union.

"Our treaties in Europe are not merely commercial agreements but are at free trade zones," he said. "That's why we rejected a trade



Jean Rey

quite normal under the GATT rules since they were concluded with former dependencies of community members and inscribed as such in the Rome Treaty. "The Rome Treaty is the basic law of the European Economic Community."

In the Mediterranean basin, Morocco and Tunisia, with which the Common Market has had association treaties since last year, were in that position as former French protectorates, he said.

Mr. Rey also said that after negotiating a trade agreement with Israel earlier this month a similar agreement with Egypt was "a normal development."

"We could not refuse negotiations with the Arabs after Israel. That would be a political mistake," he said.

Referring to "growing uneasiness over the deterioration in our relations with the United States," Mr. Rey said: "We hope to eliminate certain points of friction but probably we can't eliminate them all."

The Nixon plan would apply only to the transportation industry but could be amended to apply to other major industries if it proves satisfactory. Transportation is where most of the difficulties have arisen, the President said, and where there is a primary need to protect the public interest.

The President said that the Taft-Hartley Act, as it applies to the transportation industry, should be amended to give him three options, if at the end of an 80-day cooling-off period no settlement has been reached.

The first option would allow the President to extend the cooling-off period 30 days. If a settlement appeared to be near, this might be "the most attractive" choice, the President said.

The second option would be for the President to require partial operation of a troubled industry to minimize the danger to the national health and safety. This procedure could be carried out for up to six months.

The third option, which is expected to receive the most attention, would be to require the most



HIS EXCELLENCY'S HARD HAT—French President Georges Pompidou adjusts personalized safety helmet as he prepares to visit the moon rocket at Cape Ke.

Opulence and Responsibility

The plea of Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, a possible Democratic presidential contender in 1972, for increased spending for foreign aid should help stimulate public debate on an issue that has been downgraded by politicians of both parties for too long.

Preoccupation with the war in Vietnam, the missile race with Russia and with a range of domestic problems has diverted national attention from a deepening international development crisis that poses a rising threat to the stability of the world and the security of the United States. Neither the President nor Congress has fully grasped the seriousness of that threat. As a result, American contributions that could make the crucial difference in efforts to narrow the gap between rich nations and poor have steadily eroded.

President Nixon this year has submitted the lowest foreign aid request since 1966. Congress has voted the smallest appropriation in the program's history.

This appalling record of American indifference to the development crisis is practically unique among nations, as World Bank President Robert S. McNamara observed in a recent address here. While American aid has been declining, McNamara pointed out, most of the other developed countries have been responding generously to the Pearson Commission's call for substantial increases in foreign assistance. Britain, Germany, Norway, Sweden, New Zealand, Japan and the Netherlands, among others, already are moving rapidly ahead toward the Pearson target

of 1 percent of gross national product devoted to official and private external aid. France already exceeds the goal—though French aid is almost entirely restricted to France's former colonies.

President Nixon hinted that the United States would not join this international procession when he said in his State of the World message: "We must focus on the achievements of our real objective—effective development—rather than on some arbitrary level of financial transfer." Treasury Secretary David M. Kennedy questions the Pearson target, pleading priority budgetary claims for defense and domestic purposes.

McNamara's response to the Kennedy argument is worth repeating: "The dilemma that faces the wealthy nations of the world is not whether they should devote more of their GNP to solving domestic crises, and less of it to help eliminate inhuman deprivations abroad; but rather whether they are going to seek a more equitable balance between private opulence and public responsibility." In the seventies, he predicts, "shocks to world stability... will be significantly less military and substantially more political, social and economic in character."

Sen. Muskie's call for greater public responsibility in meeting the political, social and economic perils of the seventies through increased foreign aid is a timely challenge to the administration to add additional resources to promised reforms when it submits the new assistance proposals next month.

THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Tiptoeing Through Africa

When he launched a 15-day tour of Africa, Secretary of State William P. Rogers said his purpose was to "show a new interest" in the continent by the United States. The risks of showing such an interest—long overdue—became obvious as the first American secretary of state ever to visit the continent raced from one nation to another. Not only was he greeted by discontented U.S. policy in the Middle East by the moderate Arab countries he visited in North Africa, but he also confronted a host of pleas, complaints and advice in East, Central and West Africa: the Ethiopians, disquieted by Soviet influence in the Horn of Africa, urge greater military aid; the Kenyans ask a massive American assist to economic development efforts; and the Zambians lead other independent nations in demanding a stronger American position against the white-ruled regimes of the south. In Nigeria there was some criticism of this country's allegedly ambivalent stand during the civil war in Biafra.

Secretary Rogers for the most part managed to tiptoe a careful path through the hazardous area of emotional African politics. In a public confrontation with Diallo Telli, the secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity, he pointed out that the "conviction around the world that the United States can solve all problems... is not true." He reportedly told the Ethiopian government that the United States will be extremely cautious before intensifying military involvement. He responded to the eloquent but pessimistic warnings by President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia about a coming explosion in southern Africa, that "we do not believe that violence is the answer." And he assured Nigerian leaders that the United States is sincerely eager to help with postwar reconciliation and reconstruction.

All this is fine for a hurried official making a whirlwind tour of ten basically friendly

countries. But the Africans will perhaps be skeptical of American talk about interest in development without regard to security arrangements and strategic concerns. They have heard such talk before, but in fiscal 1970 will have seen only \$160 million in economic aid trickle their way from Washington, hardly enough to scratch the continent's desperate problems. Idealistic words and promises of a nicer foreign policy alone will not persuade African leaders or their people that the long-neglected continent has advanced in American priorities. Indeed, President Nixon's pronouncements on Africa in his State of the World message—coming as they did during Secretary Rogers's absence—are already regarded as suspect. "Surely it would have been better to have waited until Rogers returned before putting out a viewpoint on Africa," said one Zambian editorialist. "Otherwise, what was the point of his trip?"

Before being convinced that the United States will not view Africa in a big-power context, they may wait to see what the reaction is to the next major chunk of aid from a Communist country, such as continued Chinese assistance in building the Tanzania-Zambia railway that the West said was impractical.

But they will almost certainly be optimistic that Secretary Rogers's 20,000-mile trip means a new start, a fresh approach to Africa which takes African leaders seriously. They will surely feel that their very strong views on whether the American Consulate in white-ruled Rhodesia is to remain open after full independence will be communicated personally to President Nixon before he makes a decision, that the overly simplistic view—popular among some of the President's friends—of a capitalistic white African south versus a Communist black African north will be firmly rebuked. And, of course, they will hope for much greater aid as proof positive of our "new interest."

THE WASHINGTON POST.

International Opinion

More Cordial Entente

President Pompidou in Washington, like Edward VII in Paris, has been making an old entente more cordial by saying the right things in a tactful way in public. Franco-American relations have improved vastly since the collapse of Gen. de Gaulle's foreign policy in 1966.

Both the United States and Britain do now understand the central place of France in European development. This is certainly true of the economic and political development of the European community, but it is equally true in the area of European defense. If Europe is to achieve a new defense strategy to reduce reliance on American troops, then that strategy must be based on French cooperation with Britain, West Germany and its other partners. The lesson of the period of Gaullism is that France cannot

look after its own security, but that without France there is no way of any other power achieving the security of Western Europe.

—From The Times (London).

A European Currency

There was a time when British representatives might have gone a long way to accepting the common rules of the game (for a common European currency), to benefit from a more institutional monetary solidarity.

But, at a time when the pound sterling is in a much better position, are they not likely to be in less of a hurry to move toward a common currency?

What would be the reaction of the Bank of England if it was told tomorrow that it could no longer alter its bank rate without asking the opinion of its partners?

—From Le Monde (Paris).

In the International Edition

Seventy-Five Years Ago

Feb. 28, 1895

NICE—The first trials of the electric tramway from Nice to Cimiez took place this afternoon and were quite satisfactory. In the car which made the first run were Mr. George Averly, constructor of the tramway; M. Jules Weitz, constructor of the permanent way; M. Tardieu, electrical engineer of the Societe des Metaux; M. Durand, manager of the Electrical Company of Nice; and M. Senéchal, concessionaire of the tramway.

Fifty Years Ago

Feb. 28, 1920

PARIS—Every American in France has an opportunity to help make the American Hospital the great factor it deserves to be in the relief of the sick and suffering. Already, despite inadequate quarters and limited means, the hospital has proved that it could fill a need which is now increasing. A number of Americans have already seen the necessity for the expansion of the hospital's facilities, and this week alone a record in contributions has been established.



'We're Helping Mr. Nixon Stabilize the Economy.'

The Hidden War in Laos

By James Reston

WASHINGTON.—In his definitive foreign policy speech of last Nov. 3, President Nixon said: "I believe that one of the reasons for the deep division about Vietnam is that many Americans have lost confidence in what their government has told them about our policy. The American people cannot and should not be asked to support a policy which involves the overriding issues of war and peace unless they know the truth about that policy."

Well, you can say that again about Nixon and his policy in Laos. He has withheld the truth about important United States military operations in that country. As he is de-escalating the war in Vietnam and claiming a lot of credit for it, he is escalating the war in Laos and refusing to release the facts about it.

The result is that the President, and the United States Senate, are now arguing about U.S. military actions well known to the enemy in Laos, but officially withheld from the American people. In fact, State and Defense Department officials have testified in executive session about what our "advisers" and our men are doing there, but they have claimed executive privilege on this testimony and have refused to release it to the public.

High-Level Bombing

All the Nixon administration has conceded publicly is that it has certain "advisers" in Laos and has authorized high-level bombing of part of the enemy's supply trail that runs from North Vietnam through Laos into South Vietnam.

In addition to these high-level bombing raids, however, U.S. air men have been flying fighter support missions for the Laotian Army in the Plain des Jarres and even closer to the North Vietnamese and Chinese borders, training the Lao mountain tribesmen to fight the North Vietnamese and the Laotian Communists, and according to some senators, concealing the identity of the American military assistance by transferring regular armed services personnel to the Central Intelligence Agency, and assigning military supply missions to non-military U.S. private airline carriers.

It should be noted that a great deal of information about U.S. military action there has been printed, much of it by Henry Kissinger of The New York Times. The main issue is not so much about the facts, but about the right of the administration to try to conceal the facts, and to suppress the facts even after its own officials have confirmed them in private

congressional committee hearings. Here, for example, is an exchange between Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona and Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri in the Senate on Feb. 25:

Goldwater: "Does the senator mean that the United States has troops in combat in Laos?"

Symington: "It depends on a definition."

Goldwater: "I mean Americans engaged in fighting on the ground."

Symington: "I am not in a position to answer any questions... in open session at this time... because the transcript has not been released as yet on any meaningful basis..."

Goldwater: "The reason I ask is that it has not been any secret that we have been flying fighter support missions in support of the Laotian Army up on the Plain des Jarres. The senator, I know, has known about that for a long time. If the information is classified, I will not press the point..."

The point of this exchange is that the information about U.S. fighter support was in fact put on a "secret" basis so far as the administration was concerned. Symington, of course, knew it was a fact but was not free to discuss it until Goldwater blurted out the truth.

There was another sharp debate in an executive meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Thursday over this same issue of what information senators have the right to request and what information the executive branch has the right to withhold. During a private interrogation of William J. Porter, who is Nixon's ambassador in Korea, chairman J. William Fulbright asked about the implications of deploying U.S. nuclear weapons in that part of the world.

"Taking the Fifth?" Porter replied that he had been instructed not to discuss this question even with members of the Foreign Relations Committee in secret session. Fulbright observed that in 25 years he had never had such a reply during a confirmation hearing and demanded to know who had so instructed the ambassador. All Porter would say was that he had been instructed "on higher authority." This was something new, the chairman observed. "Was the ambassador taking the Fifth Amendment?"

What is happening, in short, is precisely what Nixon himself warned against in his Nov. 3 speech. Members of the Senate are losing confidence in what the government is telling them about

Laos, members of the press on the scene are being condemned for reporting what they see, and the President and the Foreign Relations Committee are getting into a nasty confrontation over the constitutional question of what information can be withheld, released, or suppressed.

"The American people cannot and should not be asked to support a policy which involves the overriding issues of war and peace," the President said, "unless they know the truth about that policy." Maybe they should not, but they are in Laos, and the President knows it.

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Adjusting to the Inevitable U.S. Forces in Europe

By Anthony Lewis

LONDON.—Even to raise the subject of American forces in Europe is to bring a glass of wariness to the eyes of the average man. It is a much-debated subject, but it happens right now to be a timely and extremely important one—for both of us, Americans and Europeans.

The urgency stems from general recognition that a cutback in United States troops is now inevitable in the not distant future. Twenty-five years after World War II, Americans find it hard to see why they have to keep more than 300,000 soldiers in a prosperous Europe. President Nixon's emphasis on "partnership" with the Europeans in his recent foreign policy statement was taken as telegraphing a determination to reduce the American share in the NATO defense burden.

Why should anyone care? If more than half the U.S. forces ever here were removed in short order, as some senators suggest, what difference would it make to the West's peace of mind? Isn't NATO's strategy for defense against aggression from the East based on nuclear deterrence anyway?

One answer to those proper questions is that a nuclear strategy must have substantial conventional troop support to be credible. If the West's only answer to one Soviet platoon crossing the West German border were to fire off nuclear weapons, no one would believe we would use them. The nuclear threshold, as the experts put it, cannot be too low.

Buying Time
Again, NATO planners have worked out guidelines for use of a limited number of tactical nuclear weapons after any aggression—as a demonstration, really, in the hope that the aggression would be abandoned before escalation to mass destruction. But conventional troops are needed to hold long enough to allow time for alliance consultation and decision on use of the tactical weapons.

Apart from deliberate military aggression, many thoughtful officials here think Western conventional forces could be vital in the event of sudden political explosions in the East over the next decade. We have had Hungary and Czechoslovakia; the next time, if there is one, fighting between Soviet and indigenous Eastern forces could spill over the Iron Curtain.

The recent British defense white paper said NATO's conventional forces were now "just sufficient" for the roles assigned. But it does not follow that so large a proportion would have to be American. Should not the European members of NATO make up for any troops we withdraw?

Perhaps in the sense of perfect

justice they should, but not with any sense of political reality. The pressure for more civilian spending on social and economic programs is as great here as in America. Britain is just emerging from economic difficulties. The other potential source of more troops is West Germany, and a larger German force in NATO would hardly make sense. Chancellor Willy Brandt is in to negotiate with the East.

In fact, any sudden and massive cut in U.S. forces would produce renewed pressure in Germany for some access to nuclear weapons. Certainly it would cut Western hopes for talking the Russians on mutual force in Europe—the one way to wind down the missile pressure without alarming nervous Germans.

All these reasons counsel a gradualism in the coming withdrawal. There may be ample ways to cut costs without deeply affecting combat strength such as trimming support units supply standards.

Healey's Preaching
The Europeans, for their part, could not just go on hoping in the end the United States would do nothing. Denis Healey, British defense minister, has been preaching for years that the Western members of NATO must together, more as an entity, commit more of their own resources to NATO, making the use of American pullbacks. The time, it is used wisely, would be low for transforming political developments. British entry into the Common Market could be a British-French military question and, perhaps, to some extent, a question of the East-West talks just now gaining on many levels. It is a very different picture of Europe.

The question is whether will be true. European policy are confident that President Nixon wants to deal fairly and one with the problem, consulting along the way. But they are sure that he will remain in force of events.

Vietnam is what troubles them. Again and again one hears of political leaders and one express concern about what happens if the Nixon policy in Vietnam does not work. If the American withdrawal is slow down or stops the American withdrawal. If the strains of Vietnam are still on the United States, a year from now, there may be public pressure for a pull-out from the United States. No President could resist.

But the value of the Longines report is that it is a spectrum of views of both names and American opinion. Vietnam—within and outside war military-governmental policy that is trying to achieve immensely complex goal "winning" or pacification.

The gist of the report is the foundations of the administration's present policy in Vietnam are much shakier than some position of executive staff will admit.

In view of the 1968 Tet offensive this is a perfectly rate and is a really respectable position for Vietnam skeptics to take. week's hearings failed, however make that case. They attacked little else, for that matter, venting the doubts of the anti-war critics and the orthodox men who are responsible making pacification successful.

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Auctions in London

Gold Coins for Investing Collectors

By Maxine Molyneux

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The largest collection of gold coins to come on the market in recent years is to be sold at Christie's next Tuesday and Wednesday. Dating from the 5th century BC to the 20th century, the coins come from all over the world. The sale comprises over 800 lots, all from a single private collection, and Christie's expects it to total £100,000 (\$240,000), which would be a record price for a coin sale.

The value of coins depends on their rarity and condition; age alone does not justify a high price. The condition of a coin is of paramount importance. The rarest examples in very fine condition can be expected to reach between £10,000 (\$24,000) and £15,000 (\$36,000), but a good collection can be assembled for a few thousand dollars.

Coin collecting is regarded as a gilt-edged investment by a substantial number of its de-

voters, and it is one of the easiest passions to accommodate. Coins are easily stored, present no transportation difficulties and are not likely to deteriorate with age. The British market is stable at the moment, although the American market is beginning to pick up again after a setback caused by disappointment in overly optimistic forecasts by speculators.

Christie's says that American collectors have already expressed a great deal of interest in the sale and a number have flown over for the occasion. There are certainly enough examples in the sale to warrant attention; a 50-franc piece of 1862 from Ecuador, showing the head of the great South American liberator, Bolivar, is described as being in "almost extremely fine condition." It is the only one of its kind in the world and was discovered in 1956. Christie's expects a figure of around £2,000 (\$4,800 - \$7,200) for it. Other examples from South

America include a number of proof coins, from Venezuela a 100-bolivar piece of 1875 in "brilliant" condition, coins from Tierra del Fuego, Peru, Guatemala and Mexico.

Also included in the sale is a collection of coins of Napoleon from the various mints in France including examples from the rare La Rochelle mint. There are a number of issues of Napoleon's family, including Louis Napoleon, his brother, King of Holland; Jerome Napoleon and Joseph Napoleon, also brothers and Kings of Westphalia and Spain respectively; his brother-in-law, Joachim Napoleon, King of Naples; and his second wife Marie Louise.

Some of the most interesting gold American coins were minted during the gold rush in the mid-19th century, and several are included in Christie's sale. One superb example, an Augustus Humbert octagonal \$50 piece, minted in 1851 and in fine condition, should find a ready



A gold \$50 piece, left, and a Napoleon.



buyer, along with standard rarities of ancient Rome and Greece to the more modern Swiss 100-franc piece of 1925.

At Christie's on Tuesday and at Sotheby's on Thursday, there are sales of fine English drawings and watercolors. Christie's sale includes an important Turner watercolor of Lake Nemi, drawn about 1818 and subsequently engraved by Middiman and Pye for Hakewill's "Picturesque Tour of Italy, 1820." Ruskin described it as "consummate in all ways."

Sotheby's sale on Thursday has nothing of exceptional importance, but an attractive selection of minor works, again including some good examples by English landscapists and watercolorists.

Art in London

A Selection From 12 New Exhibitions

By Max Wykes-Joyce

LONDON, Feb. 27.—A dozen new exhibitions have opened in the past three days. Among the best were:

Keith Grant, at Roland Browne and Delbanco, for his recent paintings of the Northlands. He is moved by the cold and the ice and the deep clear waters of Norway and Iceland as most of his compatriots. If they do not portray their own native landscape, they are moved by the sun and the south and the Mediterranean. He is much taken with the subject of mirror reflections, and with the tremendous and unexpected range of color to be found in the far North. From these he makes extremely satisfying and excellently painted pictures.

At Annely Juda Fine Art, Peter Kalkhof, a color theorist of acute perception, and a

master technician. He is holding his first one-man show in England. There are three large environmental paintings, of which one, the size of one wall in a small apartment, is superb and a number of smaller hard-edge abstracts. What shows quite clearly in Kalkhof's work is his seriousness and his command of technique, as befits one who trained in Brunswick, Stuttgart, London and Paris. And what is even more heartening, he teaches in England at Reading University.

Four artists represented at the Nicholas Treadwell Gallery: the Austrian-born Frenchman Henri Edouard, with drawings; the Australian Ron Russell, with, if truth be told, rather trite abstract oils; the British Guyanese Aubrey Williams, one of the best and most neglected of young abstractionists living and working in England and a colorist of great subtlety and

delicacy; and the Englishman Jack Yates who is represented here by some very good monotypes of hipples.

The Polish-born Halima Nalecz's show at her own Drian Gallery. It is an excellent exhibition entitled "The Four Seasons." She always paints birds and flowers and creatures in a lively expressionist style of colors. Predictably, the spring oils are bright, the summer florid, the fall misty and the winter icy. But they make a fine evocation of the joy of living.

The exhibition of Fernand Quignon, who is among the rank of true Impressionists and post-Impressionist French painters who are comparatively unknown and whose work has never been seen in England. This show is the first in London of Quignon's landscapes and cityscapes. It is at the Kaplan Gallery.

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- To be willing to travel;
- To be a Swiss citizen or holder of a Permit "C";
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GATT States Refuse Idea for Trade Talks

Feb. 27 (NYT).—The 76-member nations of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) today refused to commit itself to a series of trade talks in 1971, or to another round of trade talks on the barriers to the free world.

The nations agreed merely to "study" the idea of trade talks in 1971, or to another round of trade talks on the barriers to the free world.

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S. Surplus Trade Fell Last Month

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (Reuters).—The U.S. trade surplus continued to shrink in January to \$5.5 billion from \$6.5 billion in December, the Commerce Department said today.

The trade surplus was the smallest since January 1969, when it was \$5.5 billion.

The trade surplus was the smallest since January 1969, when it was \$5.5 billion.

Large Talks Collapse

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (Reuters).—Large talks between the U.S. and Canada today collapsed.

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**PEOPLE IN
BUSINESS**

Deere & Co. has named former director of manufacturing Robert W. Boeke to the newly-created post of general manager for Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Mahamed Mahmoud Abushadi, governor of the National Bank of Egypt, has been elected chairman of the newly-formed Union of Arab and French Banks. Maurice Schlegel, head of France's Credit Lyonnais, which owns 40 percent of the Arab-Trench bank, is vice-president of the new Paris-based bank.

Oil Tanker Returns to Arctic; Costs Top Original Estimate

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (NYT).—The S.S. Manhattan, the first commercial vessel to transit the Northwest Passage, is expected to leave April 1 for a second series of tests to determine the economic feasibility of transporting Alaskan oil to East Coast markets by ship.

The voyage raised a controversy over whether the Northwest Passage waters that run through the Arctic archipelago of Canada are inland, territorial or international.

The U.S. position was that the waters were international. The Canadian government has not yet made an official statement but has made numerous occasions made semi-official declarations of sovereignty over both the archipelago's water and land.

The decision to send the vessel to the Arctic again has billion-dollar implications for both the United States and Canada.

Cost Estimate Hiked

The Manhattan's initial voyage through the passage demonstrated the operational feasibility of Arctic shipping to a degree greater than Humber had originally anticipated. An analysis of the data gathered on the voyage, however, indicated that ships powerful enough to conquer the ice 12 months a year would cost far more than originally estimated.

Humber originally estimated that it would need a fleet of six ships at a cost of \$30 million each if a decision were made to move the oil by water. Industry sources now place the cost for each ship at between \$50 million and \$100 million.

As the estimates of building the giant ships increased, the potential savings to the oil industry from using marine transportation, as opposed to a pipeline, decreased. However, the alternative of a transcontinental pipeline has also been called into question because of difficulty and delays.

Company Reports

Brown Shoe	
Quarter	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	101.74 102.54
Profits (millions)...	3.88 5.53
Per Share	0.57 0.82

Circuit City	
Year	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	478.2 445.9
Profits (millions)...	17.22 18.33
Per Share (diluted)...	1.77 1.89

Fairchild Camera & Instrument	
Year	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	250.5 198.4
Profits (millions)...	2.7 0.57
Per Share	0.62 0.13
a-1969 net included extraordinary income of \$1.7 million.	

Foster Wheeler	
Year	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	— —
Profits (millions)...	5.26 4.62
Per Share	1.68 1.47

Levi Strauss	
Year	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	250.7 198.2
Profits (millions)...	14.53 12.06
Per Share	3.00 2.47

Stanley Works	
Year	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	397.88 227.65
Profits (millions)...	13.32 8.04
Per Share	3.46 2.27

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BLAXIE & Housley

Plastic, Forged Like Metal, Introduced by Carborundum

By John Noble Wilford

HOUSTON, Feb. 27 (NYT).—A new plastic that can be fabricated like metal and is highly heat-resistant was introduced here today at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

The new material was described by its developer, James Economy of Carborundum Co., as "the beginning of a new generation" of high-temperature plastics.

Mr. Economy, research manager at Carborundum, said that plastic could be forged like metals at temperatures that cause other plastics to melt and could be blended with metals to form plastic-metal alloys.

Carborundum said that the initial cost of the plastic was \$45 a pound. After large-scale production begins, the price is expected to be reduced to about \$15 a pound for large orders.

4th Quarter Capital Outlays Were Down 5%, Study Says

By Herbert Koshetz

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (NYT).—A recent sag in leading manufacturers' appropriations for new plant and equipment can make a difference in total capital spending later this year, it was pointed out yesterday by Martin R. Gainsburgh, chief economist of the National Industrial Conference Board.

The country's top 1,000 manufacturing corporations set aside a total of \$7.47 billion in the fourth quarter of 1969 for capital improvements, according to the N.I.C.B., or 5 percent under the third-quarter level of appropriations.

Strong Pattern

Actual expenditures appropriations lag behind by about six months, Mr. Gainsburgh said, and this could bring a leveling off or decline in total capital spending during the latter half of 1970.

Mr. Gainsburgh, who is also senior vice-president of the N.I.C.B., noted that the backlog of unspent appropriations—now at a record \$23.9 billion—assures a strong spending pattern for the first half of the year.

The malaise of manufacturers' capital investment will be the petroleum industry, the board's survey showed. This industry accounted for \$3 billion of the total set aside during the final three

months of 1969. Excluding petroleum, appropriations in the quarter would have fallen below those of the previous quarter by 15 percent.

Steel industry set-asides of capital fell by almost 8 percent in the fourth quarter, while those of the primary nonferrous metal industry plummeted 7.4 percent. Appropriations by the automotive industry fell 4.5 percent.

Mr. Gainsburgh said tight credit, construction delays and profit weakness had had a dampening effect on investment trends. Total set-asides by the durable-goods industries came to \$3.68 billion, down 13 percent. Total appropriations by the non-durable-goods sector amounted to \$3.8 billion, up 3.8 percent.

Plans to Spend Up

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (Reuters).—The fourth-quarter total was 12 percent above the figures for the year-earlier period.

Mr. Gainsburgh said that well over half the companies responding to a special N.I.C.B. survey plan to invest as much or more this year than last. This tendency to higher outlays was most pronounced among those with sets of \$100 million or more, he said.

Diary of a Stock Wall Street Once Loved

By Robert Metz

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (NYT).—No doubt about it, the National Student Marketing Corp. had a substantial Wall Street following.

The company was deeply involved in the lush youth market through direct sales and a variety of related student services. Its dynamic founder and president, Cortes W. Randall, was full of bullish earnings projections and he set about to deliver on his promises through an aggressive acquisition program and internal growth.

In short, he was everything Wall Street wanted in a growth company and they loved him down Lower Broadway way. The stock was traded over-the-counter and a surprising number of Wall Street's greatest names were involved in making a market in National Student.

There were 1,797,750 shares outstanding and one can imagine that trading volume was substantial. It is and but true that trading volume is not readily available since volume figures are not required of over-the-counter houses.

At any rate, the shares zipped ever upward and the directors split them two for one in December, 1968, and again in October, 1969.

And Mr. Randall continued to forecast ever-rising earnings. At a New York Security Analysts meeting late in 1969, he predicted that National Student's earnings would equal \$1 a share on the split shares for the current year ending on Aug. 31, 1970.

The stock was a sensation and reached the equivalent of more than \$30 a share during its greatest popularity. At the shareholders' meeting held on Dec. 30, Mr. Randall once more forecast earnings rising again.

But in the light of an earnings report released Tuesday and revised Wednesday, it all must seem like a bad dream to those who still own the company's shares.

"Mechanical Error"

In the revision, the company cited a "mechanical error" in transferring figures from one set of books to another and sliced sales by nearly \$4 million and jacked up first-quarter losses by nearly \$300,000.

Actually, the company said, sales were \$14.38 million and the net loss \$859,889. Before a reduction of deferred taxes of about \$500,000 arising from the carry-over effect of the quarter's operating loss, its loss was \$1,359,889.

In the first quarter of the preceding year, National Student reported a net profit of \$1,294,500, or 11 cents a share, on sales of \$10.42 million. The figures are "restated" and subject to adjustments of a year-end audit, the company said.

Spartans Industries	
Half Year	1970 1969
Revenue (millions)...	501.7 512.1
Profits (millions)...	10.89 22.18
Per Share	1.11 2.50
a-1969 includes an extraordinary gain of \$4.5 million or 88 cents a share.	

White Motor Corp.	
Year	1969 1968
Revenue (millions)...	960.45 851.03
Profits (millions)...	12.43 23.02
Per Share	1.83 3.52
a-1969 net includes extraordinary losses of \$5.06 million.	

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Easier Money Not Sighted in New Fed Data

But a Subtle Policy
Change Is Detected

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (NYT).—Easier money, which Wall Street is convinced lies just around the corner, was nowhere to be found during the last two weeks, banking data published yesterday showed.

The principal indicators of credit conditions—for example total reserves of Federal Reserve member banks, the money supply and the bank credit proxy—all continued to exhibit patterns of growth. (Conditions in some cases) that are typically associated with a policy of severe monetary restraint.

As a case in point, the money supply, narrowly defined—that is, currency in the hands of the public, plus most checking accounts at the banks—averaged \$199.2 billion in the four weeks ended Feb. 18, virtually unchanged from the level early last June, when the money managers made their last major tightening of policy.

Subtle Change Seen

Some analysts—William F. Butler, vice-president and chief economist of Chase Manhattan Bank, is one—believe that the central bank may already have made a subtle change in its policy in the direction of less restraint.

In evidence of this change, he cites primarily the monthly Treasury bills since the first of the year, in addition to other declines in short and long-term money costs.

In the week ended Wednesday, bills yielded an average of 6.84 percent, in contrast to the peak of 8.16 percent in the week ended last Dec. 31.

In a conversation yesterday with Newman, however, Mr. Butler noted that these rate declines had largely been in anticipation of an easing in policy, and that the time was rapidly approaching when the money market would have to "validate" these expectations if rates were to go lower.

Mr. Butler warned, with special emphasis, that if the Fed did not ease credit very soon, the economy might be only "a matter of weeks" away from the threat of a serious recession.

But in describing his own outlook for the economy this year, Mr. Butler made it plain that he was convinced that the Fed would ease credit, and that the current business downturn—at worst—would be no more than a "mini-recession."

Powerful Rally in N.Y. Is Second Best of Year

By Vartan G. Vartan

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (NYT).—Traders on the New York Stock Exchange sniffed the magic aroma of lower interest rates today as prices boomed ahead in the next-to-strongest session of 1970.

It was a rally dominated by blue chips, while glamour groups such as computers and electronics lagged behind. In the corrective bear market of 1969, the reverse situation had prevailed.

Du Pont rose 3 7/8 to 98, Eastman Kodak climbed 1 3/8 to 78 7/8 and General Foods added 3 1/8 to 88 3/8, among blue-chip stalwarts.

Xerox Topples

IBM fell 4 to 34 1/4, while both Motorola and American Research and Development dropped more than 2 in the glamour sector. Xerox toppled 3 5/8 to 81 in active trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average, climbing almost steadily throughout the session, finished with a gain of 13.14 at 7765. Some Wall Street brokers detected a good omen in that string of three successive sevens.

The market got off to a good start with an overnight news development. A small bank in California said it was reducing its prime lending rate to 8 percent.

Little Significance Seen

On Wednesday, the year's biggest advance in the Dow—a stirring 13.86 points—was touched off by a similar rate cut by a small Philadelphia institution.

While other bankers saw little of immediate national significance in these reductions, investors hungering for signs of ease on the credit front took encouragement and bought stocks. Drum-tight credit has been the chief depressant on stock prices over the last 14 months, showing aside the Vietnam conflict—lo which there exists a cause-and-effect relationship—as the overriding factor.

Shortly after noon, the market received further stimulus from a statement made by Donald Regan, one of the most influential stockbrokers in the world as president of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith.

Mr. Regan, who is not in the habit of making such forecasts lightly, predicted that the prime

Pratt & Whitney Gets Big Contract

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (Reuters).—Pratt & Whitney won today a \$448 million Air Force contract for design and manufacture of 90 engines for the F-14 and F-15 jet fighter, a spokesman for Sen. Edward Gurney, R., Fla., said today.

He said the Florida-based engine manufacturer was awarded a \$47.4 million contract covering the 1970 fiscal year. The eventual amount of the contract is \$448 million.

Pratt & Whitney is a division of United Aircraft.

2 Small U.S. Banks Cut Prime Rate to 8%

BAKERSFIELD, Calif., Feb. 27 (AP).—Two more very small U.S. banks cut their prime interest rates today to 8 percent from 8.5 percent.

The first move was made today here by Community National Bank. Later in the day, First American National Bank in Arizona followed suit.

Lincoln National Bank in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, was the first to lower its rate.

In New York, spokesmen for the major banks again dismissed the move as having no effect on their banks' position on the prime rate.

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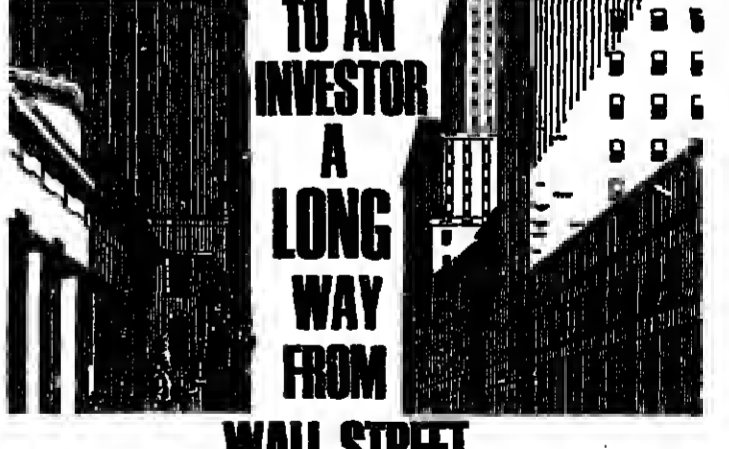
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